

From: modulan
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/5/02 1:20am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Please close this case as fast as possible since:

There are zillions of real problems confronting our country which demand better use of taxpayer bucks - and believe me I am paying a bunch - hopefully not squandered on a showcase for high profile lawyers.

Regarding legal rationale, I excerpt from the published text:

Precedent requires that:

the balancing of competing social and political interests affected by a proposed antitrust consent decree must be left, in the first instance, to the discretion of the Attorney General. The court's role in protecting the public interest is one of insuring that the government has not breached its duty to the public in consenting to the decree. The court is required to determine not whether a particular decree is the one that will best serve society, but whether the settlement is "within the reaches of the public interest."

I think enough time has passed for the DOJ to conclude the case. One would have to be an imbecile to believe that Microsoft's competitors haven't pushed the case for their stockholders not the public's benefit - the whole case is leaving a bad taste for the fairness of the American legal system. Quite simply, how much of the Microsoft cash can I get by gambling with lawyers in court.

As for Microsoft's mistakes, the proposed settlement gives a lot more than anyone would have envisioned would really arise based on the original complaints.

Folks, the DOJ and its facilities should not be a set for this expensive soap opera - for heaven's sake, someone - just someone just pound down the gavel and stop the legal opera of the century.

On the humorous side, if you folks can't close it out, just send the case to Judge Judy!

John D O'Meara Sr.

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